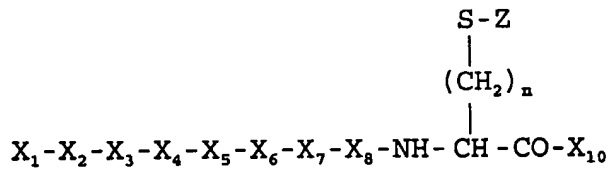
Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (original) A compound having bone stimulatory activity, the compound comprising a peptide having an amino acid sequence of Formula I:



Formula I

in which:

X_1 and X_{10} are positively charged polar amino acids;

X_4 and X_8 are negatively charged polar amino acids;

X_5 is an aromatic amino acid;

X_2, X_3, X_6 and X_7 are non polar neutral amino acids or uncharged polar amino acids;

Z represents a blocking group; and **n** is an integer from 1 to 3.

2. (original) A compound of claim 1, in which each of X_1 and X_{10} is independently selected from the group of arginine and lysine; each of X_2, X_3, X_6 and X_7 is independently selected from the group of threonine, valine, serine, alanine or glutamine; X_5 is histidine or phenylalanine; each of X_4 and X_8 is aspartic acid or glutamic acid; and Z is a substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, carboxyalkyl or carboxyamidoalkyl group.

3. (currently amended) A compound of claim 1 ~~or claim 2,~~ in which Z is selected from the group consisting of a lower alkyl group, carboxyloweralkyl or carboxyamidoloweralkyl.

4. (original) A compound of claim 3, in which the alkyl group is methyl or ethyl and n is 1 or 2.

5. (currently amended) A compound of claim 2 ~~any one of claims 2, 3 or 4,~~ in which the alkyl group of Z is methyl.

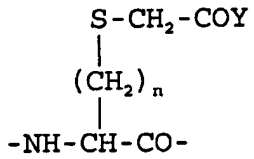
6. (original) A peptide with bone stimulatory activity comprising an amino acid sequence containing 10-amino acids selected from the group consisting of peptides of the following Formula Ia:

K	T	Q	E	F	T	A	E	X_9	K
R	T	Q	E	F	T	A	E	X_9	K
R	T	Q	E	H	T	A	E	X_9	K
K	T	Q	E	H	T	A	E	X_9	K

Formula Ia

in which X_9 is methionine or a modified methionine or a modified cysteine.

7. (original) A peptide of claim 6, in which X_9, when a modified methionine or a modified cysteine, is represented by the formula:



wherein Y represents a hydroxyl, alkoxy or amino group; and **n** is an integer from 1-3.

8. (original) A peptide of claim 7 in which n is 1 or 2.

9. (currently mended) A peptide of ~~any preceding~~ claim 7 in which at least one of the C-terminus of the peptide or the N-terminus of the peptide includes a protecting group.

10. (original) A peptide of claim 9, wherein the protecting group of the N-terminus is an acetyl group, and the protecting group of the C-terminus is an amino group.

11. (original) A peptide having the amino acid sequence identified as SEQ ID NO:1, wherein the N-terminus is optionally protected with an acetyl group, and the C-terminus optionally protected with an amino group.

12. (original) A peptide having the amino acid sequence identified as SEQ ID NO:2, wherein the N-terminus is optionally protected with an acetyl group, and the C-terminus optionally protected with an amino group.

13. (original) A peptide having the amino acid sequence identified as SEQ ID NO:3, wherein the N-terminus is optionally protected with an acetyl group, and the C-terminus optionally protected with an amino group.

14. (original) A peptide having the amino acid sequence identified as SEQ ID NO:4, wherein the N-terminus is optionally protected with an acetyl group, and the C-terminus optionally protected with an amino group.

15. (original) A peptide having the amino acid sequence identified as SEQ ID NO:5, wherein the N-terminus is optionally protected with an acetyl group, and the C-terminus optionally protected with an amino group.

16. (original) A peptide having the amino acid sequence identified as SEQ ID NO:6, wherein the N-terminus is optionally protected with an acetyl group, and the C-terminus optionally protected with an amino group.

17. (currently amended) A method of stimulating bone growth in a mammal comprising administering to the mammal an effective amount of a compound ~~or peptide, as the case may be,~~ according to ~~any preceding~~ claim 1.

18. (currently amended) A method of treating osteoporosis in a mammal comprising administering to a mammal a therapeutically effective amount of a compound ~~or peptide, as the case may be,~~ according to ~~any of claims 1 to 16~~ claim 1.

19. (currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and a therapeutically acceptable amount of a compound ~~or peptide, as the case may be,~~ according to ~~any of claims 1 to 16~~ claim 1.

Claims 20 to 22 (canceled)

23. (new) A compound of claim 2 in which Z is selected from the group consisting of a lower alkyl group, carboxyloweralkyl or carboxyamidoloweralkyl.